

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
QWEST COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION)
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)
P R O V I D E I N T E R E X C H A N G E)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND)
OPERATOR SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY**

TC03-063

On April 1, 2003, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from Qwest Communications Corporation (QCC).

QCC proposes to provide facilities based and resold interLATA and intraLATA interexchange services for voice and data applications, including 1+ and 10-10-XXXX outbound dialing, 800/888 toll-free inbound dialing, directory assistance, data services, calling cards and operator services throughout South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by QCC. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On April 3, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 18, 2003, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its May 6, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered QCC's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:24:02(8).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that QCC has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. QCC has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). The Commission approves QCC's application for a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that QCC's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services and operator services is hereby granted, effective May 31, 2003, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission waives ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that QCC shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of May, 2003.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner